

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	USSR (Caucasus, Kazakhstan)	REPORT	
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This is UNEVALUATED

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

Caucasus

1. The sanatorium in Yessentuki (N 44-03, E 42-51) was very large, with room for about 10,000 patients with stomach ailments. In Kislovodsk (N 43-55, E 42-43), also in the Caucasus, there is a sanatorium for heart cases, and in Zheleznovodsk (N 44-08, E 43-03) one for stomach and kidney diseases. There is also a very large sanatorium in Pyatigorsk (N 44-01, E 43-05). These towns probably have no income other than that from the sanatoriums and the resulting business from them.
2. Source has a good impression of the Caucasus. The scenery is beautiful, the vegetation is rich, and there are many orchards. It is mountainous. In summer it is hot, going up to 30°C. People are better off there than in the north; they dress well, and the food is good. Source heard that there was a housing shortage there.
3. Yessentuki is a pretty town with a recreation area. Source does not believe that there are any industries in the town. The streets are paved with asphalt. The houses are constructed of masonry and surrounded by gardens. The buildings are fine, well-appointed, and clean. There are more than 20 sanatoriums in the town. All treatment is electric (sic). There are many mineral springs. In

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the center of town there is a large park . On the whole it is a small and nice city with everything necessary for a pleasant rest. It has movies, a theater, restaurants, volleyball courts, dance halls, and shops with show windows; the streets and the park are illuminated. Source heard that people there are prosperous. There is much fruit available in the town.

Kazakhstan

4. Kazakhstan is something else again. All around is steppe; the land is flat with no trees. Source resided in an agricultural district with no industry. There are many collective farms with huge fields. Each collective farm has a cultivated area of 1500 to 2000 hectares, cultivated by means of machinery. Wheat is the major crop, but there are also many watermelons, tomatoes, melons, cucumbers, and other vegetables. The land is good; fertilizer is unnecessary. Collective farm members in this area are generally better off than those who live farther north, as most work is mechanized and they get more food in payment for a day's work. For that reason, there are more people on these collective farms, and they are not as dissatisfied with their life as are persons on other collective farms.
5. Livestock raising is highly developed, especially sheep raising. There is pasture land about, and one can put up as much hay as one wants (sic). There are some frame buildings but most buildings are of earth and are called "earth houses" (mazanka); floors are often of earth. The cultural level of the area is low.
6. The majority of the inhabitants of this area are collective farm workers. The population is composed of Russians (Ural Cossacks), Kazakhs, and Ukrainians.
7. There are no lakes and few rivers; wells are the usual source of water. Not far away is the Ural River, which does not dry up. In this river there are a great many fish, especially in spring.

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